

**Crime Watch News** 

Department, Crime Prevention Unit, 400 W. Broadway, Long Beach, CA 90802 Long Beach Police

#### Anthony W. Batts Chief of Police

#### Robert Luna Deputy Chief of Police Patrol Bureau

## William Blair

Deputy Chief of Police Investigations Bureau

Jeffrey J. Craig Deputy Chief of Police Support Bureau

#### **Braden Phillips** Bureau Chief **Administration Bureau**

Karen Owens Administrator Community Relations Division

### **Paul Sanford**

Sergeant Crime Prevention Unit Community Relations Division

## COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION MEETING

## LONG BEACH CITY PROSECUTOR

Wednesday April 18, 2007 7:00 P.M.

**Long Beach Water Department** 1800 East Wardlow Road (On Wardlow Rd., just West of Cherry Ave.)



Thomas M. Reeves City Prosecutor

Come out and meet our City Prosecutor Thomas M. Reeves. He will provide an update on the Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office.

This Community Crime Prevention meeting is open to everyone. Please bring your friends and neighbors.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS** INSIDE THIS ISSUE: April 13 Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach **Upcoming Events**

**Award Recipients** Police and Fire 2 Memorial

2007 Gold Shield

2

3

4th Consecutive Year 3 of Crime Reduction

4th Consecutive Year of Crime Reduction (Continued)

Denim Day

Long Beach

Downtown Long Beach, Call (562) 981-2600 for details

Cambodian New Year Festival April 21 El Dorado Park, Call (562) 607-9261 for details

National Day of Prayer

May 3 City Hall Civic Plaza, Call (562) 495-1729 for details

May 6 The Spring Festival Earl Burns Miller Japanese Gardens at CSULB Call (562) 607-9261 for details

May 15 39th Annual Police Awards Ceremony Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center Call (562) 570-7215 for details

May 19 Long Beach Gay Pride Parade & Festival on Ocean Blvd, Marina Green, Rainbow Lagoon & Shoreline Dr. Call (562) 987-9191 for details

562-570-7215 • www.longbeach.gov/police • March 2007

Chief's Neighborhood Watch Advisory Group



## 2007 Gold Shield Award Recipients

The Police Department and the Chief's Neighborhood Watch Advisory Group are very proud to present the six recipients of this year's Gold Shield Award. The Gold Shield is awarded to active participants in the Neighborhood Watch program, who have gone above and beyond to contribute to the improvement of their neighborhood. This year we honor:

- Block Captain Charlene Carpenter, who has shown great leadership skills in her neighborhood by sponsoring a Neighborhood Clean-up through her council's office.
- Block Captain Jennifer Cruz, whose positive attitude and friendly nature motivates others to join her mission to make her community a safe and welcoming place to call home.
- Block Captain Marisol Jablonski, who is described by her neighbors
  "as the best," and is always keeping her neighborhood aware of
  community at large issues and block issues.
- Block Captain John Mattei, who embodies the core purpose of the Neighborhood Watch Program - creating and keeping a cohesive neighborhood, maintaining open channels of communication at all times, and fostering a sense of unity in his neighborhood.
- Irma & Pedro Rodriguez, members of the Lime Avenue Neighborhood Watch Group, who act not only as translators for their group, but are involved in all block activities and are a watchful eye for their community.
- Richard Sisk, member of the Gardenia Neighborhood Watch Group, who is a fearless member and has declared war on graffiti and trash in their neighborhood, by removing graffiti off walls and continuously picking up trash in his community.

We congratulate these recipients, and invite everyone to hear more about their accomplishments, and celebrate their award with them at our April 18th Community Crime Prevention Meeting.

Reducing crime in our city is a group effort and a constant battle. The Police Department would not be as effective without the participation of the community. Recognizing and reporting all suspicious activity greatly reduces criminal activity and sends a message that neighbors are aware of the activity and will not tolerate it.

Although the Gold Shield Awards are celebrated once a year, the men and women of the Long Beach Police Department appreciate your efforts every day of the year.



# 4th CONSECUTIVE YEAR OF CRIME REDUCTION

## EVERYDAY HEROES

The City of Long Beach has experienced a reduction in crime for the 4th consecutive year. Year-end statistics indicate a decrease in Part 1 Crimes by 4.3%, and a 3.3% reduction in overall reported crime during 2006, as compared to 2005.

"This is a tremendous accomplishment. Chief Batts and the men and women on the force of the Long Beach Police Department have done a remarkable job reducing Part 1 crime;" said Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster. "Our city needs to remain vigilant and committed to providing the necessary resources to support their efforts."

For the first time in over 40 years, there were no murders in the East Division, which encompasses the area of Long Beach east of Cherry Avenue. The year 2006 also marks the lowest citywide murder rate since 1971 when the Police Department began compiling crime statistics. Although there were 31 murders in the year 1971, the population was less as well. This is significant when the murder rates are compared between the 1971 population of 350,000 to the 2006 population of 490,166, a decrease of 11%.

In response to the decrease in Part 1 Crimes, Long Beach Police Chief Anthony Batts said, "This continual decline in Part 1 Crimes is attributed to the dedicated and hardworking men and women of the Long Beach Police Department. They work together as a team to accomplish one goal, to make the City safe for all citizens. We continually need the support of the citizens of Long Beach. Without the involvement and cooperation of the community we would not be able to do our jobs."

"I know Chief Batts will give all of the credit for the reduction in crime to his team of police employees, but I would say that teams need leaders and in Tony Batts the Police Department and the City have a tremendous leader," said City Manager Gerald Miller.

The Long Beach Police Department's core values are Courtesy, Professionalism and Respect. These values are taken to heart by Department employees and are evident in the consistent demonstration of enhanced customer service skills and professional attitudes toward the public. The 34.4% decline in Internal Affairs Citizens Complaints during 2006, as compared to 2002 and 33% decrease in use of force incidents between 2003 and 2006 are additional examples of the commitment Police employees have to serve the citizens of Long Beach.

See "4th Consecutive Year of Crime Reduction" - Page 4

## **Denim Day Long Beach**

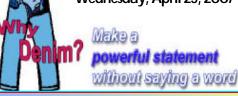
Wednesday, April 25, 2007



Denim Day is a public education campaign designed to protest rape and attitudes that excuse sexual assault. The Los Angeles Commission on Assault against Women (LACAAW) and the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA) started Denim Day California in 1999 to focus community awareness on the devasta ting effects of sexual violence and how to prevent it.

# **Denim Day**

Wednesday, April 25, 2007



The Long Beach Police Chief's Women's Advisory Group and the Sexual Assault Crisis Agency (SACA) are sponsoring this year's rape prevention education campaign in Long Beach. Everyone is encouraged to wear jeans on Wednesday, April 25, 2007.

This is a symbol of protest of harmful attitudes about rape in response to an Italian Supreme Court decision to overturn a rape conviction because the victim wore jeans. The justices reasoned that the victim must have helped her attacker remove her tight jeans, which they felt implied consent. We do not believe that consent can be implied.

#### For further information:

- ◆ SACA Hotline (562) 989-5900
- Sexual Assault Crisis Agency (SACA) at (562) 989-0309
- 1 (800) NO-RAPE-8 or go to www.denimdayinla.org

## 4th Consecutive Year of Crime Reduction

Although forcible rape showed an increase from 2005 to 2006, 2005 reflected an unusual decrease when compared to previous years. The Department works closely with the Sexual Assault Crisis Agency (SACA) who provides hundreds of community presentations every year. The Department also works in partnership with the Long Beach Unified School District, Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach officials to help educate the community regarding sexual assaults. Some of the upcoming events are "Denim Day Long Beach," where everyone is encouraged to wear jeans to promote community awareness and unity, and the month of April is designated as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, with numerous events throughout the City and educational institutions.



The Department has put a lot of effort into the fight against violent crime and the fight against property crime as well. As the result, property crimes have resulted in a 5.5% reduction, however, the biggest reduction was in auto theft with 460 fewer vehicles stolen. In addition to the decline in murder and auto theft, there were also dramatic decreases in aggravated assault, garage burglary, commercial burglary, petty theft, bike theft, auto theft and arson. Through ongoing efforts and outreach programs to raise awareness and educate the community, the Department anticipates we will continue to see further declines.

For further information on crime statistics, go to www.longbeach.gov/police

Long Beach Police Department



Crime Prevention

Long Beach Police Department Community Relations Division 400 West Broadway Long Beach, CA 90802